

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1 -16. Cancelled

17. (New) A data surge protection module comprising:
- a housing;
  - a printed circuit board within the housing and having:
    - a termination line for terminating a data line of the module,
    - a first signal line;
    - a second signal line;
    - a common return line for said first and second signal lines;
    - a shield line; and
    - a chassis ground line;
  - an avalanche diode having first and second terminals;
  - a first diode bridge having:
    - a first, second, third and fourth diodes;
    - an input terminal connecting the first and second diodes to the common return line for the first and second signal lines;
    - an output terminal connecting the third and fourth diodes to the termination line;
    - a first bridging terminal connecting the first and third diodes to the first terminal of the avalanche diode; and
    - a second bridging terminal connecting the second and fourth diodes to the second terminal of the avalanche diode;
  - a second diode bridge having:
    - a first, second, third and fourth diodes;
    - an input terminal connecting the first and second diodes to the first signal line;
    - an output terminal connecting the third and fourth diode to the second signal line;

a first bridging terminal connecting the first and third diodes to the first bridging terminal of said first diode bridge and to the first terminal of the avalanche diode;

a second bridging terminal connecting the second and fourth diodes to the second bridging terminal of said first diode bridge and to the second terminal of the avalanche diode;

a third diode bridge having:

a first, second, third and fourth diodes;

an input terminal connecting the first and second diodes to the shield line;

an output terminal connecting the third and fourth diode to the chassis ground line;

a first bridging terminal connecting the first and third diodes to the first bridging terminal of said second diode bridge and to the first terminal of said avalanche diode; and

a second bridging terminal connecting the second and fourth diodes to the second bridging terminal of said second diode bridge and to the second terminal of said avalanche diode.